

~~S E C R E T~~

SERVICES DIVISION

CHINA COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT: 1957

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CHINA COMMITTEE

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The Committee held 47 meetings during 1957. These meetings were devoted to the discussion of current topics concerning Communist China; to briefings by members and guests on research problems within their fields of responsibility; and to briefings by the Committee as a group

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The Committee, in covering a variety of topics, has kept a fairly rigid focus on certain long range problems. These include:

1. Economic indicators of Chinese Communist capabilities and intentions in the Taiwan Straits.
2. Five Year Plan goals and accomplishments and their effect on the economy.
3. Population and agriculture continuing as two fundamental problems.
4. Industrial developments, particularly in peripheral areas.
5. Construction of railroad and highway facilities.
6. World political and economic developments and their effect on the economy of Communist China.

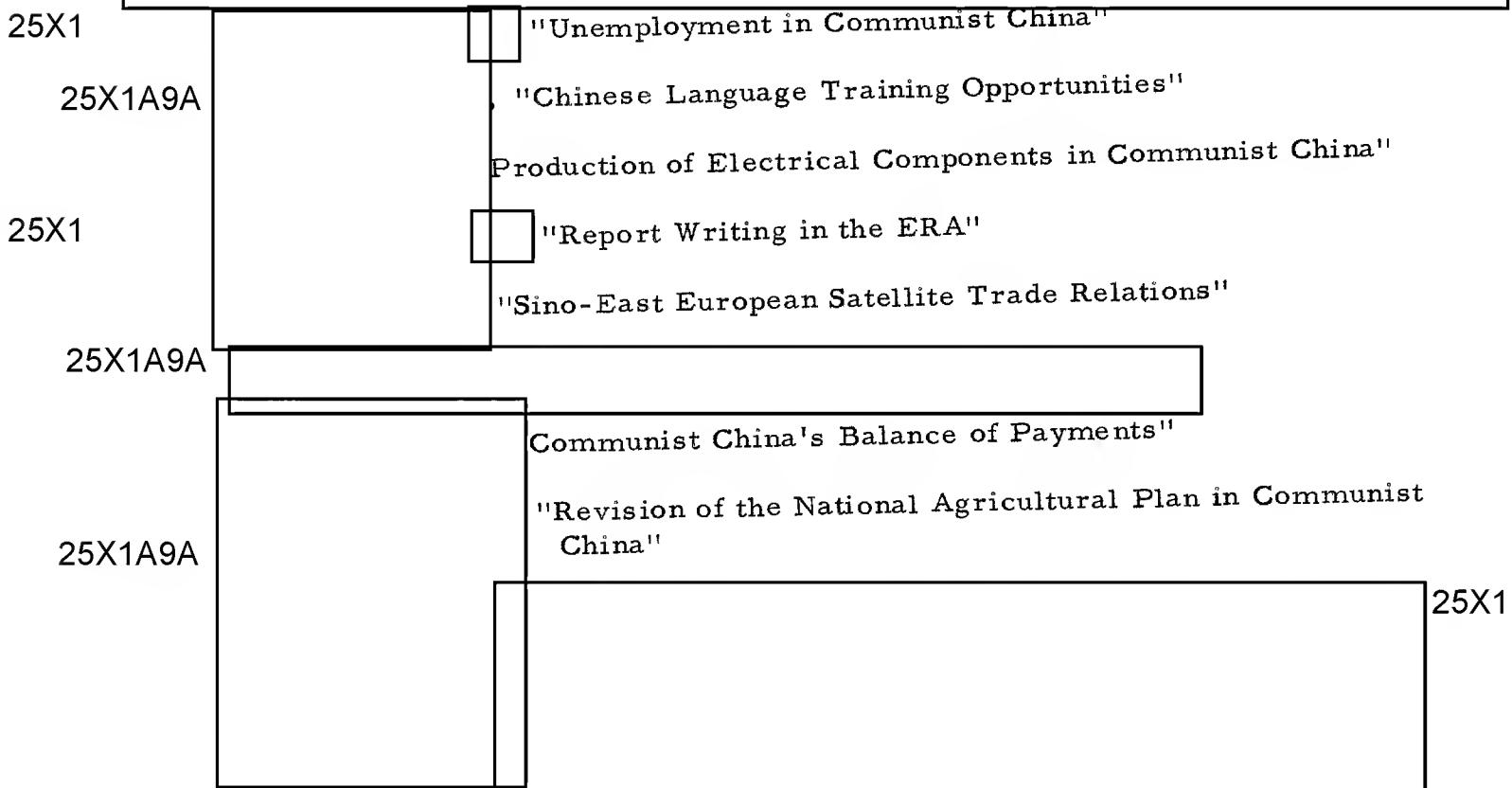
Throughout 1957, equal emphasis has been given to the presentation and discussion of current items and to more formal presentations by members and guests. In order to increase the Committee's background depth on the area, some of the latter were of the general, social-political, or "travelogue" type of presentation. The presentations included:

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"Regional Distribution of Economic Activity in Communist China"

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The Committee is primarily engaged in the informal exchange of information and ideas rather than in formal research. The Committee provides a forum for the discussion of research techniques and problems, a vehicle for immediate group action on any problem(s) devolving on the Economic Research Area, and a meeting-place in which analysts may develop close relationships likely to redound beneficially to all concerned. Occasionally the Committee has been called on to give briefings concerning its purposes, functions, and the research problems of its members

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Very tangible progress was made by the Committee in 1957. Only the continued interest and efforts evinced by both the permanent members and auditors could have made the work of the Committee as successful as it has been. Attendance from other divisions, many members of which have joined us as permanent guests, has been large, consistent, and gratifying.

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Plans for 1958

The Committee plans no great departure from its current and recent past procedures. Background movies will continue to be shown on the first meeting of each month. A Chinese language program, for which the Committee acted as intermediary, was begun in 1957 but has since lapsed. Efforts will be made to give this program new life. The minutes of the Committee will continue to reflect informative articles or books bearing on economic factors in the Far East.

7 January 1958

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